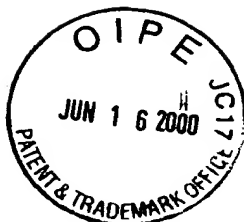


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United States
81395-137
Patents

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION

Serial Number: 09/475,308
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENCODING A
PLURALITY OF PRE-DEFINED CODES INTO A
SEARCH KEY AND FOR LOCATING A LONGEST
MATCHING PRE-DEFINED CODE
Filing Date: December 30, 1999
Inventors: Delfin Y. Montuno and James Aweya
Agent's ref: 81395-137

June 15, 2000

U.S. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231
United States

VIA COURIER

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in the manner prescribed by 37 CFR 1.97(b) - (d) to satisfy the duty under 37 CFR 1.56 to disclose to the Office information, known to individuals associated with the filing and prosecution of the subject application, which is material to the examination of the application.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), this statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(b).

This information disclosure statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application; within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; or before the mailing date of

a first official action on the merits and therefore applicant respectfully requests consideration under 37 CFR 1.97(b).

In compliance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1), a list of all patents, publications or other information submitted for consideration by the Office is hereby provided by way of the attached Form PTO-1449.

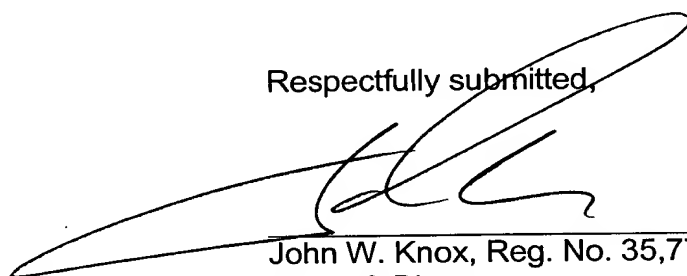
In compliance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), also enclosed is a legible copy of:

- i) each United States and foreign patent;
- ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and
- iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed, excluding any copies of a United States patent application.

It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered by the Examiner and that the references be made of record and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment in fees to Deposit Account Number 06-0713.

Respectfully submitted,



John W. Knox, Reg. No. 35,776
Smart & Biggar
Box 11560, Vancouver Centre
650 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada V6B 4N8
Telephone: (604) 682-7295
Fax: (604) 682-0274

JWK:cm

Encl.: Form PTO-1449

All references listed on Form PTO-1449
Acknowledgement Card